

## Montana Historical Society

As the guardian of our state's memory, we identify, preserve, and make available the tangible remains of the past for Montana.

It is our challenge to preserve the physical and intellectual resources for future Montana generations and state government.

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## Montana Historical Society History

- 1865 Created in Virginia City (oldest of its kind west of Mississippi)
- 1891 Designated a state agency by the State Legislature
- 1902 Moved into the basement of the then-new Capitol Building
- 1949 Board of Trustees expanded; agency redefined by the Legislature to current format with plans for Veterans and Pioneers Memorial Building begun
- 1950 First official director hired (K. Ross Toole)
- 1952 Veterans and Pioneers Memorial Building dedicated

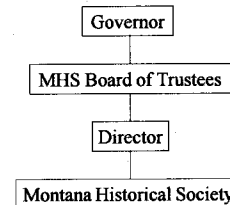
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## Montana Historical Society History (cont.)

- 1963 Fine arts responsibilities added to Society by the Legislature
- 1977 Preservation Office transferred to the Society from Fish and Game
- 1997 Given oversight of Montana Heritage Commission and Virginia and Nevada City assets by the Legislature
- 1997 Given oversight of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission by the legislature
- 2003 Oversight of Montana Heritage Commission transferred to Department of Commerce
- 2006 Senate Art Project (mandated 2003) completed
- 2007 Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission sunsets
- 2008 Designated Smithsonian Affiliate
- 2009 Society becomes main host organization for Western Rendezvous of Art event

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## General Organization



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## Board of Trustees

Jim Murry – President, Clancy

Jim Utterback – Vice President, Helena

Steve Lozar – Secretary, Polson

Janene Caywood - Missoula

Sharon Lincoln - Billings  
(Past President)

Jim Court - Billings

Thomas Nygard - Bozeman

Shirley Groff - Butte

Lee Rostad - Martinsdale

Bob Brown - Whitefish

Crystal Wong Shors - Helena

Kent Kleinkopf - Missoula

Ed Smith - Helena

John G. Lepley - Fort Benton

Robert "Bob" Morgan - Helena - Emeritus Board Member

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## Our Mission

The Montana Historical Society (MHS) exists for the use of learning, culture and enjoyment of the citizens of, and visitors to, the State of Montana by:

acquiring, preserving and protecting historical records, art, archives, museum objects, historical places, sites and monuments;

maintaining a library and an historical museum, providing educational programs and services for teachers and the general public, and publishing the state historical magazine and books;

administering preservation and antiquities acts, supporting commissions with state historical orientation, and providing technical assistance to all Montana museums, historical societies, preservation programs and owners of historical resources.

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## Core Beliefs

- Montana's history is a valuable, irreplaceable, cultural resource worthy of preservation and study.
- Knowledge of Montana history is a continued, life-long learning experience and form of civic engagement.
- History, art and culture help all people to understand who they are and from where they came.
- Teaching Montana history in our schools in an engaging way encourages a life-long interest in Montana's past and future.
- The Montana story should be responsibly told, focusing on the long and diversified (and unfolding) history of our state and region, and interpreted in a national/global context.
- Preservation, appreciation and investment in our history and culture helps to promote Montana, and enriches Montana's economy by adding value to products and services.
- A strong sense of community is garnered by sharing intergenerational experiences.
- Cultural Tourism is an economic driver for Montana

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## Historical Society Goals 2013 Biennium

- Increase delivery of services and products to rural Montana towns, museums and libraries and in turn the communities' input is gathered regarding ways to improve services and projects to Montana communities

Currently the Society provides services to every county in Montana through six programs with unique functions:

Administration  
Museum  
Education, Outreach, and Interpretation  
Publications  
Research  
State Historic Preservation Office

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## Historical Society Goals 2013 Biennium

- Plan and execute a capital and endowment campaign for the New Heritage Center

The Society will develop a comprehensive plan, working with national consultants, for a capital campaign and cultivating interested parties in the project

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## Society Programs

**Administration Program:** provides supervision, administration and coordination of all programs.

**Library/Research Program:** collects preserves and provides access to the archival, photographic and published history of Montana.

**Museum Program:** collects, preserves, and interprets the history of Montana through its material culture.

**Publications Program:** promotes the study of Montana history and education through lectures, publications and curriculum materials.

**Education, Outreach, and Interpretation:** provides educational public programming, interpretation; oversight of national sign programs.

**Historic Preservation Program:** administers the Montana Antiquities Act and participates in Federal Historic Preservation Act.

The Society has a total of 59.83 HB2 FTE budgeted for the 2013 biennium, a reduction from 61.14 FTE in 2011.

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## Partners

### Other State Agencies

Capitol Complex Advisory Council  
Office of Public Instruction  
Department of Commerce - Travel Montana  
Dept. of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (Historic State Parks)  
Montana Heritage Commission (Virginia and Nevada Cities, Reader's Alley - Helena)  
Montana Arts Council  
Montana State Library

### Private Sector/Other Partners

Montana History Foundation (Fundraising)  
Museums Association of Montana (Professional)  
Montana Archaeological Society (Scientific)  
Montana Preservation Alliance (Advocacy)  
Federal Agencies and local governments  
American Association of Museums - Accreditation  
Smithsonian Museum of American History  
Tribes/Tribal Historic Preservation Offices

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## Administration - Program 1

**Directors Office:** vision of the Society, liaison with commissions, boards, agencies, local groups, Foundation, donor management, fundraising;

**Security:** provides security for artifacts at the Society and provides information to the public;

**Public Relations:** performs outreach and public relations for the Society;

**Membership:** communicates with Society members, supports the Society's traveling educational programs, participates in outreach activities;

**Centralized Services:** oversees all financial and personnel functions for the Society, including accounting, budgeting, financial reporting, federal grant administration, information technology, asset management, and the Museum store, which sells products representing the history of Montana, including reproduction of the collections of the Society.

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## Administration Goals 2013 Biennium

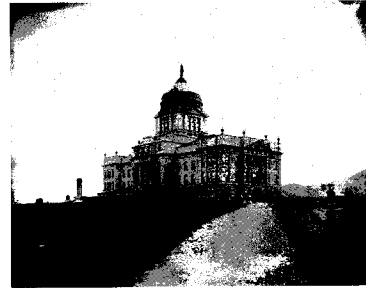
Monitor Internal Controls

Increase membership

Enhance information technology and training

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Capitol building, Helena, Montana. Dedication July 4, 1902.  
MHS Research Center Photograph Archives



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## Research Center – Program 2 Archives, Library, Photograph Archives

- Provide reference and research services to the public, staff, and other state agencies
- Preserve, catalog and provide access to published, archival and image based resources that document Montana history
- Function as the official archives for the records of the State of Montana
- Ensure that the materials documenting the state's cultural heritage and government actions are preserved and accessible to the public
- The services are based upon public access to the materials we preserve, catalog and make accessible. The public depends on the archived materials to document their cultural heritage and provide government accountability through the long term preservation of and access to public records. MCA 22-3-101

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## Research Center Program Goals

Develop and improve the nation's most comprehensive collection of research materials related to the history of Montana and the West.

Assist the public in the use and enjoyment of the collections by providing courteous, timely and accurate reference assistance to researchers of all types; by providing reproductions of materials in the collections; and by providing select materials to remote users via interlibrary loan.

Make the collections accessible and useful to the public through proper and timely accessioning and processing, the production of appropriate catalogs, inventories and other finding aids, and by participation in digital catalogs and online databases.

Act as the official archives for the state of Montana, thereby preserving and providing access to the permanent records of state and local government in Montana.

Preserve the collections for the use and enjoyment of future generations through proper processing, handling, storage, security, environmental controls, and knowledgeable application of preservation technologies and methodologies.

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## Research Center: Who We Serve

- Citizens of the State of Montana  
12,000 patrons 75% Montana residents
  - Researchers, students K-12 and Higher Ed
  - Legislative and legal research
  - Professional and amateur historic research
  - Documentaries, books, genealogy, water rights
  - Number of remote patrons have increased via telephone, e-mail, internet, written correspondence by 25%

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## Research Center Services Provided

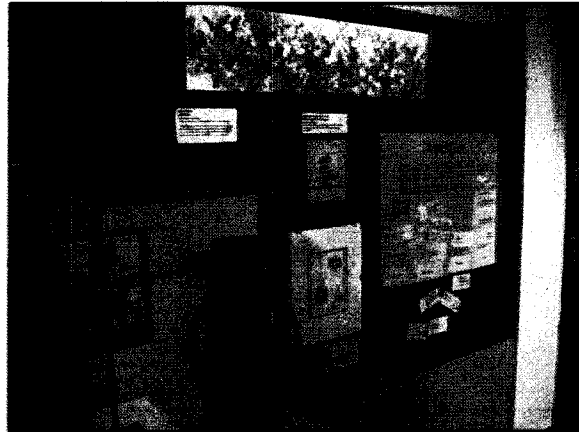
- Provide access to records, photographs, oral histories, books, maps and other materials documenting the history of Montana
  - Preservation and conservation of paper records, photographs, maps, books, and other materials
  - Reproduction of historic photographs and other materials in the collections
  - Microfilm and preserve Montana's newspapers
  - Offer public seminars, workshops, and training
  - Provide long-term preservation and access to digital audio and video recordings of Legislative committee hearings and floor debates.
  - Over 500,000 Historic Photographs in MHS's collection
  - 12,000 maps
  - 64,000 published items
  - 17,000 reels of microfilm
  - 26,000 linear feet of archival material
    - (300 linear feet of records = the length of 1 football field)
- Our collections grow annually, on average, by nearly 15,000 items and 600 feet of archival materials

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### Research Center: The Next Biennium

- Develop and improve the nation's most comprehensive collection of research materials related to the history of Montana and the west by acquiring collections and providing for the long-term care and preservation.
- Assist the public in the use of Research Center collections, both in-person and remotely, as well as by providing reproductions of our materials.
- Make the Research Center's collection accessible and useful to the public by adding new acquisitions to the Montana Shared Catalog, creating collection inventories and adding them to the Northwest Digital Archives
- Expand access to collection via the internet
- These services will benefit all Montana citizens by preserving and making accessible their cultural heritage

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### Museum Program 3

- The Museum Program is responsible for the care, preservation and management of all of the Society's art and three-dimensional artifact collections (historic, ethnographic, and archeological)
- The Montana Historical Museum is responsible for the care and preservation of all publicly held, permanent artwork in the capitol complex

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### Museum Program

- Provides outreach services pertaining to curatorial, and collections care and management (lectures, workshops, guided tours, etc.)
- Plans and produces interpretive permanent, temporary and traveling exhibitions
- Administers the Original Governor's Mansion, an historic house museum, in Helena
- Provides reference services to the general public, technical users and other museums and cultural organizations
- Plans and produces interpretive publications, and promotional literature for distribution

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### Museum Program Goals

Preservation of art and artifacts held in trust for the public by the museum through collections care, collections management, preservation efforts and conservation projects

Provide quality exhibits and educational programming for statewide and national audiences at Montana's Museum, the Original Governor's Mansion and the State Capitol

Provide accurate information on historical and technical subjects to individuals, representatives of cultural organizations, governmental agencies, the educational community, and many others

Develop and improve the museum's permanent collection through the acquisition of art and artifacts appropriate to the mission of the Society

Protect and preserve the permanent artwork in the State Capitol and within the Capitol Complex

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### Museum Who We Serve

- Approximately 30,000 visitors annually
- Traveling exhibits tour across the state and are viewed by over 3,000 Montana residents and visitors.
- Annually the museum provides over 1,200 specialized museum-related requests and services.
- Researchers and Scholars
- Teachers and K-12 students - including home school
- Higher Ed students
- Museum enthusiasts
- Cultural institutions
- General Public

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## Museum Collections

- Over 50,000 historic artifacts
- Annually receive 500-1,000 new artifacts
- Collections include:
  - Native American collection
  - Archaeological collection
  - Costumes and textiles
  - Fine Art Collection
  - Charlie M. Russell collection
  - Bob Scriver collection
  - Decorative arts and furnishings
  - Firearms collection
  - Pioneer Ranching and Farming collection

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## Museum: The Next Biennium

- Continue to systematically develop and improve the museum's permanent collection through the acquisition of art and artifacts appropriate to the mission of the Society, i.e., items that pertain to the history and culture of Montana
- To preserve the museum collections for the use and enjoyment of future
- Regular maintenance of the historic house museum, Original Governor's Mansion, and the expansion of our commitment to artifact conservation.

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## Museum: The Next Biennium

- To protect and preserve the permanent artwork in the Capitol Complex
- To provide quality educational exhibits and programming for our statewide and national audiences at Montana's Museum, the Original Governor's Mansion, and the State Capitol
- The development of traveling exhibits for statewide distribution
- The continued restoration of the historic house museum, the Original Governor's Mansion
- Planning and implementation of services to reach as many segments of our audience with a variety of activities, such as guided and self-guided tours, lectures, workshops, reference requests, etc.

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## Publication Program 4

- *Montana The Magazine of Western History*

This award-winning magazine has been continuously published for 60 years; it is the state's "journal of record"—the official chronicler of Montana history and is the publication that Montana citizens, policy-makers, and scholars rely on for the history of their state.
- Montana Historical Society Press
  - publishes peer-reviewed trade and scholarly books and is the state's leading academic press. The first MHS Press book was produced in 1958; the press currently has 56 books in print.

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## Publications

### *Montana the Magazine of Western History*

60 years of continuous publication  
 8,200 copies published each quarter  
 Subscribers in 50 states and 18 foreign countries  
 Publishes agency's annual historical calendar  
 Presents annual Merrill G. Burlingame–K. Ross Toole Award

### Montana's Leading Academic Press

Award-winning press  
 Published five books during 2009-2010  
 Five books planned for 2013 biennium  
 Offers internships in history and publishing  
 Successful Fundraising for press projects  
 Bring nationally known historians to Montana for public programs

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## Publications Program Goals

- Continue publication and distribution of *Montana The Magazine of Western History*
- Distribute 45,000 copies of the magazine annually
- Continue the operation of the MHS Press

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## Publications Who We Serve

- Montanans
- Library Patrons
- Society Members
- Teachers
- Researchers/ Historians
- Tourists
- Cultural Institutions

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## Publications: The Next Biennium

- Continue the publication and quarterly distribution of *The Magazine of Western History*
- Continue operation of the Montana Historical Society Press, the state's leading scholarly book publishing house
- Works in progress include *"I Do": A Cultural History of Weddings in Montana*
- *Montana's Last Best Barns*, a full-color, large-scale history of barns
- *Charlie's Montana*, a comprehensive catalog of the MHS Charles M. Russell collection
- Photographic history of Montana
- *Montana Women Speak: Oral Histories of the Treasure State*
- Historic cookbook and history of foodways in Montana featuring research, recipes, and photographs from the MHS collection

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## Education Program 5 Outreach and Interpretation

- Provides Educational Resources
- Educational Public Programs
- Docent Led Tours
- Hands-On History Trunks
- Award Winning Middle School Textbook
- National Register Sign Program
- Conferences and Workshops
- Volunteer Program

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## Education

- The state's history and cultural preservation continue to evolve, hence the need to provide a wide variety of educational experiences to Montanans
- MHS provides trustworthy, highly regarded resources of history and cultural heritage to Montanans

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### Education – Program 5

- Interprets history and cultural materials
  - Footlockers,
- Conducts and provides Society-wide educational outreach
- Conducts educational tours and public programs
  - Tours of the Capitol and the Original Governor's Mansion
- Distributes publications related to education
  - Montana: Stories of the Land and Teacher's Guide
- Provides curriculum materials and resources for schools
  - Middle School textbook, online learning units, web-based resources
- Conducts seminars, workshops, and training
  - Teacher training, History conference, local and county museum workshops
- Manages the Society's volunteer program
  - 146 volunteers provided 6775 hours of services during 2010
- Administers the National Register Sign Program

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### Education Program Goals

Provide quality tours that are educational and engaging to Montana school students at MHS, the State Capitol, Original Governor's Mansion

Provide a quality educational experience for Montana school students state-wide through "Hands-On History Trunks"

Provide quality historic interpretation, easily accessible to the general public, statewide through the National Register Sign Program

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### Education: Who We Serve

- Pre-kindergarten through Senior Citizens
  - Teachers
    - 365 educators registered on listserv
  - Tourists/Visitors
    - 31,224
  - Historic Home Owners
    - 100 National Register signs
  - School Children, homeschoolers
    - 10,000 textbooks 8,189 Footlockers and 635 senior citizens
  - Centennial family farm and ranch owners
    - 100 families have been assisted in the application process
  - Local and county museums presentations
    - 6,287 participants

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### Education: The Next Biennium Educators and Students

- Advancing our hands-on history footlocker program
- Promoting the use of our textbook, *Montana: Stories of the Land*, in classrooms and libraries across the state
- Facilitating the teaching and study of Montana history utilizing web-based resources for educators and students
- Implementing place-based education through the National Register Sign Program and primary-source learning
- Co-sponsoring Montana National History Day with MSU-Billings in an ongoing endeavor to expand this program statewide
- Conducting educational tours of the Society, Montana State Capitol, and Original Governor's Mansion
- Organizing and hosting workshops and training events for educators

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### Education: The Next Biennium Public Outreach

- Providing a wide variety of educational and entertaining public programs highlighting diverse topics related to Montana history and cultural heritage
- Organizing the annual Montana State History Conference
- Conducting educational tours of the Society, Montana State Capitol, and Original Governor's Mansion for both Montana citizens (individuals and groups) and out-of-state visitors
- Producing and distributing educational literature (walking tour brochures, capitol self-guided tours, family activity guides, etc.)
- Making local history relevant and accessible in all parts of the state through the National Register Sign Program, benefiting both local residents and out-of-state visitors

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### Historic Preservation - Program 6

- Historic and archaeological surveys
- National Register nominations for historic properties
- Certification for federal tax credits
- Preservation grants to local governments
- Consultation on historic architecture and historic building preservation
- Antiquities database
- Coordination with state and federal agencies
- Provides technical support to Montana Burial Board
- Coordination with tribes
- Workshops, seminars, and outreach programs on preservation

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### Historic Preservation Program

- The mission is to preserve our significant historic, archaeological and traditional cultural places.
  - Promote learning opportunities
  - Facilitate recognition of historic properties
  - Assist owners in National Register of Historic Places process
  - Promote the cultural, social and economic benefits of historic preservation
  - Collaborate with tribal cultural representatives

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### Historic Preservation Program Goals

Assist and provide funding support, as available, for state and local historic preservation projects and initiatives, including survey and identification, brick and mortar restoration, planning, promotion, education, training, and interpretation

Maintain and add to statewide inventory of locations of survey and of known recorded historic and archaeological properties in Montana (State Antiquities Database)

Assist property owners in evaluating and nominating properties to National Register of Historic Places

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### Historic Preservation Program Collaboration or Consultation

- State and Local Governments, Consultants
  - 15 Certified Local Government
  - 1792 compliance projects
- Tribal Governments
  - 7 Tribal Preservation Offices
- Commercial Historic Property Rehabilitations
  - Approved \$478,720 tax credits = \$2,393,600 investment
- National Register of Historic Places
  - 29 properties listed

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### Historic Preservation Program Collaboration or Consultation (Cont.)

- Advocacy Groups
- Local Governments
  - \$97,410 sub-granted to Montana Preserve America communities
- Federal Government
  - BLM, USDA, BOR, USFS, FWS, DOE
- Private owners of historic building and sites
- Other Interested Parties
  - Preservation of significant historic, archaeological and traditional cultural places

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### Historic Preservation Program: The Next Biennium

- Develop the 2013-2017 state historic preservation plan in consultation with stakeholders and the public
- Expand and strengthen statewide participation in the Certified Local Government/community preservation program
- Incorporate the files and services of the Site Records Office into the state historic preservation program
- Populate the newly created state antiquities geo-database and geographic information system (GIS) with locational information
- Continue to coordinate with, and assist, state agencies in their stewardship of Montana's state-owned heritage properties on behalf of Montana citizens

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